Regular Town Council Meeting

Town of Madisonville

403 St. Francis St.

Wednesday August 14, 2019

7:00 pm

Call to Order- Mayor Jean Pelloat

Roll Call- Alicia Watts- all present

Invocation- Councilman Doran

Pledge- Councilman Haddox

* July 10, 2019 Town Council Meeting Minutes Approved
* July 24, 2019 Public Committee Meeting Minutes Approved
* June 2019 Financials Approved
* Public Comment Period:
1. Judge Scott Schlegal- Running for District 1 Louisiana Supreme Court- gave a short platform speech
2. John Keller- Running for Division F Judge- gave a short platform speech
3. Harold Bartholomew- Running for Division F Judge- gave a short platform speech
4. Judge Will Crain- Running for District 1 Louisiana Supreme Court- gave a short platform speech
5. Girl Scouts Jr. Troop 30687 Present the Town Bat Houses- Shannon Marks stood with the group of Girl Scouts to state that bats were becoming endangered and their importance. She gave directions on the placement of the houses and presented them to the Town.
6. Madisonville Fire Department- Joey Sanders stood to announce August 30- September 1, 2019 as "Fill the Boot Days". This benefits the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Southeast, La.
7. Madisonville Master Plan Steering Committee- Louis Ogle stood to announce their upcoming meetings and that they are discussing the RPC bike path plan. He also announced the Meet the Candidate forum on September 10, 2019 for the Parish President elections.
8. Gar Rodeo- Casey Revere reported the success of the Gar Rodeo, citing over 300 participants and over $6000.00 donated to Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center. He stated the Gar Rodeo has existed for 45 years. Mr. Revere questioned why there was no leniency for parking and at the boat launch. The Mayor answered that this year it was a private event on private property, he did not need permission from the Town. Mr. Revere reiterated that the Town should have been lenient in the parking and boat launch tickets because the event brings people in to Town. Also, that a young man received a traffic ticket, but since he was participating in the event, he should not have gotten it. Councilman Doran asked Mr. Revere to come back to the Public Committee Meeting to discuss the matter.
9. Carol Olson stood to tell of the SS Bayou Teche, built in the Jahncke Shipyard, that had been retired in Washington DC. She will be giving a lecture about it at the Madisonville library on October 1, 2019.
10. Bert Jenkins, Bert's Boat Works, cited customer complaints about having to wait in the car line to get to his marina. He asked the Chief of Police and the Mayor to let his customers through the car line and keep the north side of the street clear. Chief Tyrney said that allowing his customers through during school car line would endanger children. This matter will be further discussed.

Old Business:

* Regional Planning Committee Presentation- RPC was not present. Mayor Pelloat made the hard copy presentations available for the public and council.

New Business:

* FY 18/19 Budget Amendment- Mr. Morlier stood to explain the need for an amendment to the budget. Because salaries were re-allocated to their correct departments, police officers, building repairs and supplies were added to the police expenses, and we did not receive two grants that were expected in that fiscal year, the budget exceeded the 5% more/ less than threshold and had to be amended. Mayor Pelloat invited all the councilmen to come in with any questions for discussion. A motion to approve the amendment was made by Councilman Haddox, seconded by Councilman Hitzman and motion passed with all in favor.
* Introduction of an Ordinance Amending the Town's Charter (as amended) and the Recodification Therof Changing the Day and Time of the Regular Council Meetings. This Ordinance will change the current meeting time and day to the second Wednesday of every month at 6:00pm. This was introduced by Councilman Doran, seconded by Councilman Haddox and passed with all in favor.
* Introduction of an Ordinance Adopting and Enacting a New Code for the Town of Madisonville, Louisiana; Providing for the Repeal of Certain Ordinances by Non-Inclusion Therein; Providing a Penalty/Fine for the Violation Thereof; Providing for the Manner of Amending Such Code; and Providing When Such Code and This Ordinance shall Become Effective. This is the Municode recodification. Mel Lamp inquired to the process of changing Ordinances and adopting them en masse. Councilman Haddox explained that all Ordinances were given to Municode to condense and make minor language changes. Mr. Lamp thinks there should be more time allotted to the public to go over these changes before adoption. Councilman Doran said to post the proposed Ordinances online and table the discussion for now. Councilman Hitzman stated that all the Councilmen were given the Ordinances and proposed changes to review and make suggestions on, but Councilman Doran was the only one who did not submit any. Councilman Doran responded with "Ok, Mr. Rooster". He then asked Chief Tyrney if he had looked at or helped with the proposed code and the Chief answered that he had helped with the parts that pertained to the Police but had not read it in its entirety. Mayor Pelloat said that since Councilman Doran is part of the public safety committee, he should also have reviewed it. The introduction was made by Councilman Haddox, seconded by Councilman Bounds and approved by all but Councilman Doran.
* Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Town of Madisonville Code of Ordinance to Add New Section Regarding Excessive False Fire Alarms. Introduction was made by Councilman Haddox, seconded by Councilman Bouey and approved by all.
* Resolution- Property Donation. A property on Johnson St., between 4th and 5th St., was offered for donation by Stephen Guidry. Councilman Doran questioned why the Town would be offered this and what the plans were for it. The property is currently wetlands. The Mayor stated that the property was first offered to the Town three years ago. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Haddox, seconded by Councilman Hitzman and passed by all but Councilman Doran.
* Resolution- Town Park Improvements. This allows the Mayor to accept a grant for the Town Park amphitheater with the condition that the Town matches the grant. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Bounds, seconded by Councilman Bouey and passed by all.
* Monthly Department Reports:
1. Engineering- Ms. Hillhouse from Professional Engineering Consultants stood to give the status of several grants and projects. 1) The Sanitary Sewer Study is waiting on approval from the EPA. 2) The Resolution for the Town Park Improvements was approved tonight. 3) The boat launch improvements have been approved, just waiting on paperwork. 4) The sewer lift station project is underway.
2. Police- Chief Tyrney stated he had received offers of assistance during Tropical storm Barry from Brian and Mark Doran, that the Town now has a position on the Emergency Operations Center Board, the success of the 4th of July Parade and events, and that he had attended some Wooden Boat Festival meetings. July 2018 citations totaled 273, July 2019 citations totaled 199 which shows increased compliance.
3. Maintenance/ Utility- Mr. Matthews cited 34 new customers, that the new phase of Guste Island and the Harvey Lavigne extension were completed, and the new gas truck had been received.
4. Permits- Mr. Courouleau cited 2 new permits.
5. Cultural Arts- none
6. Town Attorney- Mr. Danner cited things he had worked on for the Town in the past month. He has helped with the Municode recodification, several Ordinances and violation letters, Council and Public Committee meetings and several other things.
* Council Comments:
1. Councilman Doran commended Chief Tyrney and the administration on taking care of political signs that violate Ordinance.
2. Councilman Haddox commended all the departments on their cooperation during Tropical Storm Barry and on the Emergency Plan for the Town.
* Mayor's Comments- Mayor Pelloat announced the Ferrara Family Dentistry ribbon cutting.
* Adjourn- Motion made by Councilman Haddox, seconded by Councilman Bounds and passed with all in favor.